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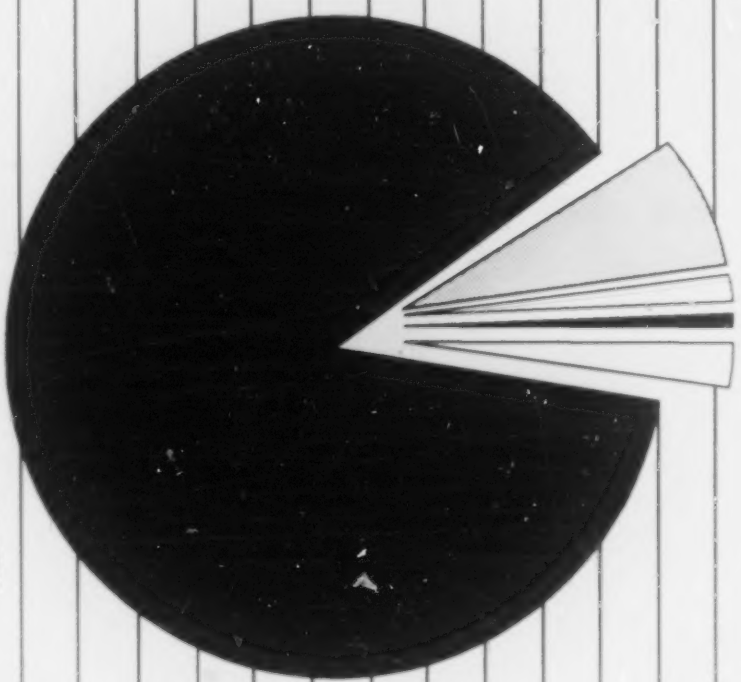
Annual Statistical Report

1987



AACOM

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF COLLEGES OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

1987
Annual Statistical Report

Prepared by

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Director, Information Services

American Association of Colleges
of Osteopathic Medicine

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LOCATION OF COLLEGES OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

TRENDS

There are 26,794 osteopathic physicians attending to the health needs of people throughout the United States. That 1987 figure reflects a 5 percent increase over last year. And, in the past year, 6,640 students, a slight increase over last year, were studying and training to be osteopathic physicians at our 15 colleges. Freshmen enrollment has exceeded 1,700 students for the fourth straight year. That figure is even more impressive when it is compared to the 500-level enrollment in 1968. About 1,700 DOs are expected to graduate this summer and for the next two years after that.

More and more women want to pursue a career in osteopathic medicine. Compared to a decade ago, the number of women who apply to osteopathic schools has increased 79 percent; women now total 28 percent of the student body and more than a quarter of the graduating DOs.

The number of minority students increased by 9 percent during the 1986-87 academic year to a total of 583 students. Minorities actually equal 9 percent of the total enrollment, but two of every five minority students are Asian American. Black Americans, American Indians and Hispanics are underrepresented, making up only 5 percent of the college's enrollment. Enrollment by Blacks, Indians and Hispanics also declined slightly in 1986-87.

More than half of the osteopathic physicians in the United States are under 45 years of age, although the average age in this country is 49 years. Doctors in military service are slightly younger -- the average age is 39 -- while the average age for DOs working in the United States Public Health Service is 38. DOs outside the United States tend to be older -- the average age for DOs in Canada is 70 years, while in other countries the average age is 65! Excluding interns and residents, one of every four DOs in the United States is younger than 35, and almost a third of the doctors is between the ages of 35 and 44.

More than half the doctors -- 54 percent -- have private practices, while 6 percent work out of hospitals; 2 percent are educators, administrators or researchers; 5 percent are interns; another 5 percent are residents; 4 percent are engaged in other postdoctoral study; and, the rest are retired or inactive.

Once the long years of medical study are completed, most graduates and new young doctors face another major hurdle: paying back the thousands of dollars of debt they amassed to finance their education! These new doctors not only need

cash to set up a practice, but they must also begin making payments on their school loans. And, the debt that remains after an osteopathic medical education is getting steeper every year -- the average loan at graduation is increasing about $5,000 annually. The graduates in 1985 owed an average $49,600 and 1986 graduates faced a $55,400 debt. Preliminary data for 1987 indicates an average debt of $60,000. Some new doctors owe more than $100,000. These astronomical debts may discourage competent young people from entering the medical profession. New DOs also may forego specialties that interest them because they can't afford to lag any deeper in debt. The cost of a medical education, of course, eventually is passed along to patients and, therefore, perpetuates the spiral of increasing health costs.

TABLE I

THE OSTEOPATHIC PROFESSION

Distribution of Osteopathic Physicians, as of August 5, 1987

LOCATION	NUMBER OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS	LOCATION	NUMBER OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS
Alabama	57	Nevada	73
Alaska	30	New Hampshire	25
Arizona	758	New Jersey	1,497
Arkansas	60	New Mexico	156
California	830	New York	905
Colorado	406	North Carolina	78
Connecticut	63	North Dakota	18
Delaware	93	Ohio	2,254
District of Columbia	19	Oklahoma	889
Florida	1,716	Oregon	268
Georgia	247	Pennsylvania	3,418
Hawaii	45	Rhode Island	119
Idaho	49	South Carolina	39
Illinois	863	South Dakota	37
Indiana	314	Tennessee	114
Iowa	708	Texas	1,641
Kansas	330	Utah	25
Kentucky	72	Vermont	34
Louisiana	32	Virginia	117
Maine	323	Washington	324
Maryland	77	West Virginia	235
Massachusetts	172	Wisconsin	297
Michigan	3,705	Wyoming	14
Minnesota	92	Military Service	1,254
Mississippi	59	U.S. Public Health Service	128
Missouri	1,548	U.S. Territories	4
Montana	37	Canada	45
Nebraska	28	Foreign	53
		TOTAL	**26,794**

SOURCE: American Osteopathic Association

AACOM APPLICATION SERVICE (AACOMAS)

AACOMAS, the application service of AACOM, enables prospective students to submit a single application and yet be considered for admission by more than one school. AACOMAS processes applications for 13 of the 15 colleges of osteopathic medicine.

For the 1987 entering class, 3,328 people submitted their applications for processing by AACOMAS. This is 10.5 percent lower than the number processed for 1976 when the service began. It was also a drop of almost 6 percent from the previous year. Since 1984, the number of applicants has fallen by almost 20 percent. The average applicant designated about four osteopathic medical schools. The applicants were competing for a total of 1,311 available seats. The ratio of 2.5 to 1 for seats in 1987 compares with 2.6 to 1 the previous year and almost 3 to 1 in 1985. The AACOMAS ratio is higher than those of other health profession schools; allopathic medical schools had about two applicants per seat, and the dental schools had a ratio lower than 1.5.

The number of AACOMAS applicants rose to a peak of 4,126 in 1984. The number of women applicants also peaked that year at 1,168. The percentage of women, however, has risen every year since our record keeping began in 1977. It was then 14.3 percent, and, in 1987, reached 30.1 percent.

The tables highlighting ethnic minority data have been modified in accordance with the specifications followed by the U.S. government and other health professions. Figures for Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders have been removed from the minority classification and listed along with white, non-hispanic. The other three minority ethnic groups listed together are underrepresented in the osteopathic medical schools. Whites and Asians consistently show higher percentages in enrollment than they represent of the U.S. population.

In 1987, minority applications held steady at 354, which totaled 10.6 percent of all applicants. The percentage has climbed regularly from 2.9 percent in 1976. The number of Asians also has climbed steadily; white applicants, however, have declined since 1984. (See Table II)

APPLICATIONS

There were 13,292 applications for admission to the 15 osteopathic medical schools for the 1986-1987 academic year. This was a decrease of 3,416 from the previous year or a drop of 20.4 percent. The 1986-1987 applications also represented a 20.6 percent decline in the number submitted in 1979-1980. In that year, there were 16,749 applications for 12 colleges. On the average each student applies to four colleges. These application data were derived from information provided to AACOM on the annual survey questionnaires.

TABLE II

APPLICANTS TO AACOMAS OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS
FOR ETHNIC GROUPS AND WOMEN
BY ENTERING YEAR, 1976 THROUGH 1987

GROUP	ENTERING YEAR											
	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Black American	59	111	116	133	130	138	150	188	136	145	159	170
American Indian/Alaskan Native	14	12	18	19	15	15	16	37	27	21	31	19
Hispanic	33	42	38	56	76	92	128	134	140	170	164	165
TOTAL UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY	106	165	172	208	221	245	294	359	303	336	354	354
PERCENT UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY	2.9	4.2	4.9	5.4	5.8	6.3	7.5	8.9	7.3	8.7	10.1	10.6
White, Non-Hispanic	3,539	3,698	3,299	3,544	3,467	3,523	3,484	3,515	3,633	3,332	2,945	2,676
Asian American/Pacific Islander	62	55	59	104	98	117	139	171	190	201	215	288
TOTAL ALL GROUPS	3,707	3,918	3,530	3,856	3,786	3,885	3,917	4,045	4,126	3,869	3,514	3,318
Women	*	559	610	765	804	901	965	1,092	1,168	1,102	1,009	1,002
PERCENT WOMEN	*	14.3	17.3	19.8	21.2	23.2	24.6	27.0	28.3	28.5	28.7	30.2

NOTE: Since 1983, White, Non-Hispanic may include about one percentage of applicants who did not provide ethnic identification.

*not available

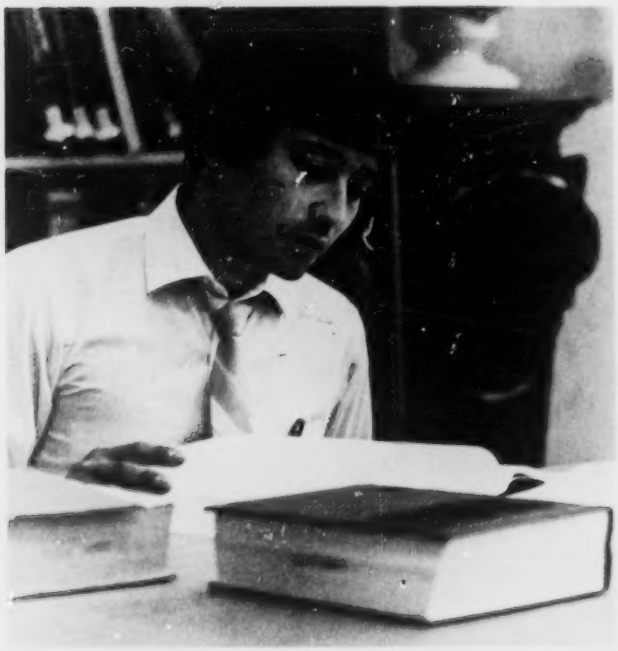
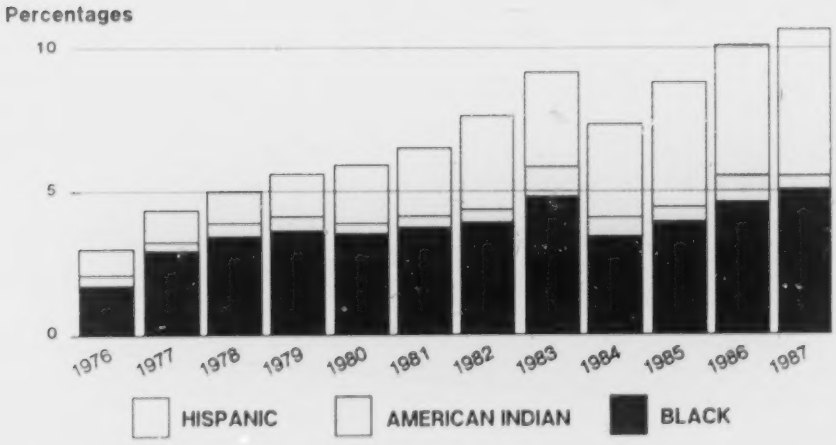


CHART 1

THE PERCENT OF UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY APPLICANTS HAS RISEN FOR 10 OUT OF 11 YEARS. IT HAS ALMOST QUADRUPLED SINCE 1976.



OVER THE DECADE THERE HAVE BEEN SIZABLE INCREASES IN THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS IN EACH ETHNIC MINORITY GROUP.

ENROLLMENT

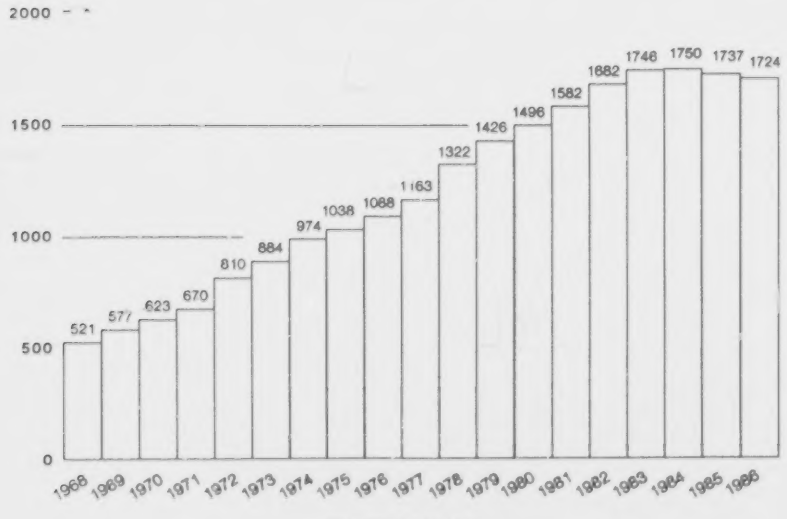
The number of new freshmen in the osteopathic medical schools took a small downward step last year, after a steady climb for nearly 20 years. Freshman enrollment since 1968 had risen an average of 73 students per year and peaked at 1,760 in 1985. But, in the 1986-87 school year freshmen enrollment dropped back by two percent to 1,724. Changes over the past four years have been moderate despite the drop in applicants, and no serious fall in enrollment is expected.

Total enrollment of osteopathic medical students has not been affected by the current slight decrease in freshmen. It is still on an upward swing and has risen an average of 265 students per year since 1968. The latest rise is not more than half a percent, and a slight downward trend may be ahead. Enrollment remains 3 1/2 times the level in 1968.

In each of the last three years, the number of new physicians graduating from the osteopathic medical schools increased 15 percent in 1984, 6 percent in 1985, and 3 percent in 1986. In the current year, for the first time, over 1,600 DOs graduated. The number of new DOs over the next few years probably will remain fairly stable, at approximately 1,600 per year.

CHART 2

INCREASING FRESHMEN ENROLLMENT IS TAPERING OFF AT 1,724 AFTER A LONG CLIMB. THIS IS 3.3 TIMES WHAT IT WAS IN 1968.



Women

Women continue to play an increasingly active role as osteopathic medical students. They total 30 percent of all applicants, 27 percent of the freshmen, 28 percent of all students at the colleges, and 26 percent of the graduates. In 1980, comparable figures were 21 percent applicants, 22 percent freshmen, 20 percent of all students, and 18 percent of graduates.

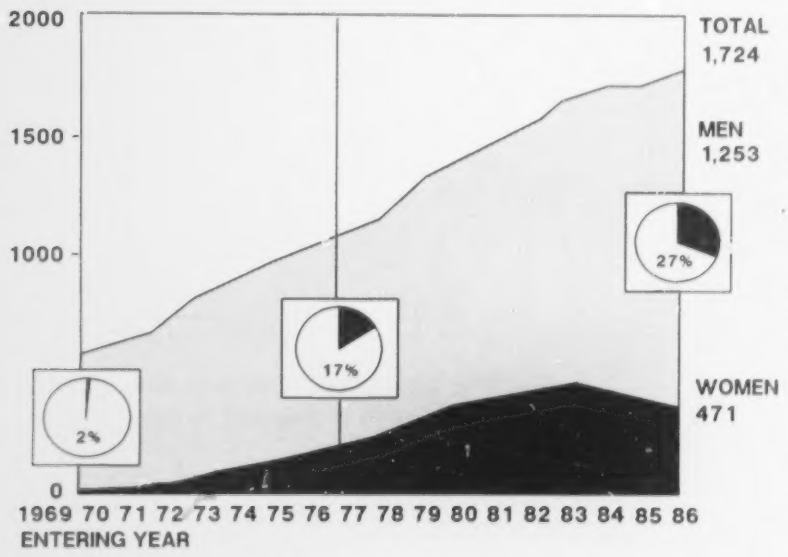
Minorities

The percent of students enrolled in the osteopathic medical schools from underrepresented minority ethnic groups rose slowly but steadily over the past decade, from 3.1 percent in

1976 to 5.1 percent in 1986. The number in each ethnic group showed an upward trend over the period. A somewhat similar picture was presented by the freshmen classes, but the number of Black Americans declined again to the 1976 level, 26. The number of American Indian/Alaskan Natives also dropped among freshmen, from 17 in 1984 to 9 in 1986. Hispanic students, who increased in number each year since 1976, dropped from 68 in 1985 to 56 in 1986. Consequently, the percent of underrepresented minorities among the freshmen declined from 6.6 to 5.3 percent in 1986, while small increases occurred among white non-Hispanics and Asian Americans. (See Tables V and VI)

CHART 3

SINCE 1969, THE NUMBER OF WOMEN HAS RISEN FROM 2 TO OVER 27 PERCENT OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS ENROLLED.



ONE OF EVERY FOUR GRADUATING OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS IS A WOMAN.

TABLE III

NEW APPLICANTS, FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT
AND TOTAL ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL

COLLEGES	1985 - 86			1986 - 87		
	NEW APPLICANTS	FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	NEW APPLICANTS	FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT	TOTAL ENROLLMENT
CCOM	1,879	109	400	1,650	108	420
COMP	1,137	103	390	1,057	103	410
KCOM	1,538	139	531	1,313	137	529
MSUCOM	829	125	499	829	126	492
NYCOM	1,280	140	499	1,260	136	517
OUCOM	1,141	101	378	1,080	101	391
PCOM	1,091	208	824	1,019	209	816
SECOM	1,221	102	330	1,051	107	371
TCOM	1,227	114	382	1,058	103	376
OCOMS	918	87	331	804	81	308
UOHS/COM	752	134	573	419	129	553
NJSOM	971	62	227	872	66	220
UNECOM	1,145	71	279	1,145	74	286
UOMHS/COM	1,762	182	729	1,551	179	717
WVSOM	926	60	236	926	65	234
TOTAL	**17,807**	**1,737**	**6,608**	**16,034**	**1,724**	**6,640**

Note: The number of applicants shown above is not unduplicated, as in Table II. The same applicant reported here may be listed by several schools.

The Students

As in the previous year, 62 percent of all osteopathic medical students received their training in their home state. They tend to do this because of lower costs for home-state students, their wish to be near their families, their plans to set up residencies or practice near schools where they may take future courses at lower rates, and the general attraction exercised by the osteopathic medical school for students of the state.

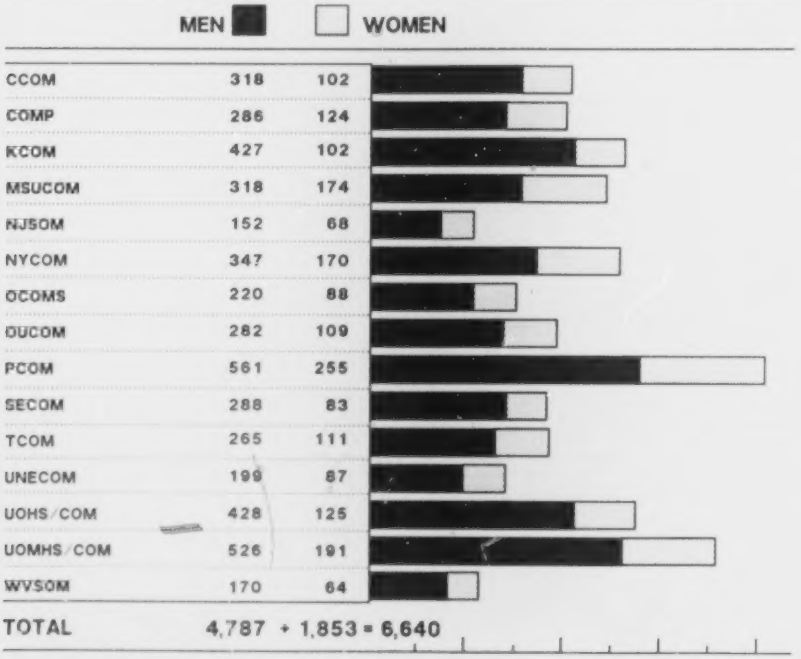
Almost 9 out of 10 freshmen entered the osteopathic medical schools directly after receiving their undergraduate degree. Of the others, 7.5 percent already had earned masters' degrees, and an additional 2 percent had doctorate degrees. However, (Chart 8) 2 1/2 percent had completed only three years in undergraduate college, further evidence that osteopathic medical students are a diverse group.

Freshmen students in 1986 had a mean grade-point average of 3.19, very close to that of previous years. MCAT scores have varied only slightly since 1979. Current average scores are 8.0 for biology; 7.4 chemistry; 7.4 physics; 7.4 science; 7.7 reading; and 7.0 quantitative operations.

The attrition rate continues to be low in the colleges. Just 1.7 percent of the students withdrew or were dismissed from the schools, compared with 2.1 percent in 1984. The major factor in the attrition rate is reported to be academic problems.

CHART 4

NUMBER OF TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN FIFTEEN COLLEGES BY SEX, 1986-1987



TWENTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED ARE WOMEN.

TABLE IV

FIRST-YEAR AND TOTAL ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATES
IN SCHOOLS OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN THE U.S., BY SEX,
ENTERING YEAR 1968 THROUGH 1986

ENTERING YEAR	FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT			TOTAL ENROLLMENT			GRADUATES		
	Total	Women	% Women	Total	Women	% Women	Total	Women	% Women
1968	521	21	4.0	1,879	53	2.8	427	8	1.9
1969	577	14	2.4	1,997	59	3.0	432	12	2.8
1970	623	17	2.7	2,151	61	2.8	472	11	2.3
1971	670	29	4.3	2,304	79	3.4	485	18	3.7
1972	810	56	6.9	2,579	116	4.5	649	18	2.8
1973	884	83	9.3	2,780	181	6.5	594	17	2.9
1974	974	106	10.9	3,139	267	8.5	702	44	6.3
1975	1,038	140	13.5	3,443	362	10.5	809	58	7.2
1976	1,088	179	16.5	3,671	472	12.9	908	84	9.3
1977	1,163	192	16.5	3,926	570	14.5	971	68	7.0
1978	1,322	222	16.8	4,221	688	16.3	1,004	163	16.2
1979	1,426	265	18.6	4,571	789	17.3	1,059	192	18.1
1980	1,496	329	22.0	4,940	971	19.7	1,151	202	17.6
1981	1,582	378	23.9	5,304	1,108	20.9	1,017	186	18.3
1982	1,682	428	25.4	5,822	1,317	22.6	1,317	261	19.8
1983	1,746	460	26.3	6,212	1,526	24.6	1,287	262	20.4
1984	1,750	511	29.2	6,547	1,707	26.1	1,474	344	23.3
1985	1,737	489	28.2	6,608	1,799	27.2	1,560	392	25.1
1986	1,724	471	27.3	6,640	1,853	27.9	1,610	412	25.6

CHART 5

ETHNIC MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS HAVE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY AT THE COLLEGES AND NOW MAKE UP 9.5% OF THE FRESHMEN. BLACK AND OTHER UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY MEMBERS ACCOUNT FOR 5.3%.

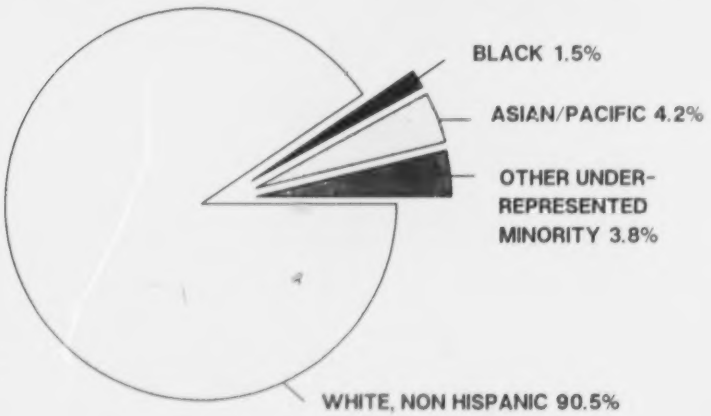
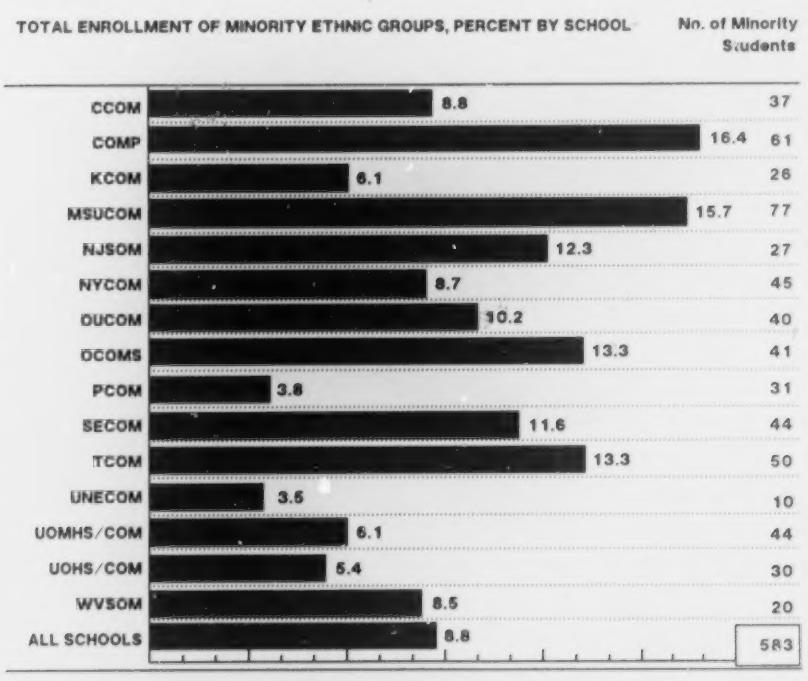


CHART 6



SOME LARGE SCHOOLS WITH LOW PERCENTAGES MAY ACTUALLY HAVE MORE MINORITY STUDENTS ENROLLED THAN OTHER SCHOOLS WITH HIGHER PERCENTAGES.

TABLE V

FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT IN OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS FOR ETHNIC GROUPS, BY ENTERING YEAR

GROUP	ENTERING YEAR										
	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Black American	26	26	31	40	40	37	38	49	42	37	26
American Indian/Alaskan Native	6	8	10	6	8	12	10	13	17	10	9
Hispanic	12	13	17	18	18	22	33	38	54	68	56
TOTAL UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY	44	47	58	64	66	71	81	100	113	115	91
PERCENT UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.8	5.7	6.5	6.6	5.3
White, Non-Hispanic	1,029	1,100	1,248	1,333	1,397	1,478	1,555	1,594	1,590	1,552	1,560
Asian American/Pacific Islander	15	16	16	29	33	33	46	52	47	70	73
TOTAL ALL GROUPS	1,088	1,163	1,322	1,426	1,496	1,582	1,682	1,746	1,750	1,737	1,724

TABLE V:

TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL SCHOOLS
FOR ETHNIC GROUPS, BY ENTERING YEAR

GROUP	ENTERING YEAR										
	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Black American	70	76	87	100	94	104	116	122	126	125	117
American Indian/Alaskan Native	16	19	24	26	19	26	25	39	50	48	42
Hispanic	27	33	36	45	52	62	81	98	126	158	182
TOTAL UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY	113	128	147	171	165	192	222	259	302	331	341
PERCENT UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.2	4.6	5.0	5.1
White, Non-Hispanic	3,516	3,753	4,029	4,330	4,688	5,003	5,467	5,801	6,079	6,075	6,057
Asian American/Pacific Islander	42	45	45	70	87	109	133	152	166	202	242
TOTAL ALL GROUPS	3,671	3,926	4,221	4,571	4,940	5,304	5,822	6,212	6,547	6,608	6,640

Debts, Scholarships and Loans

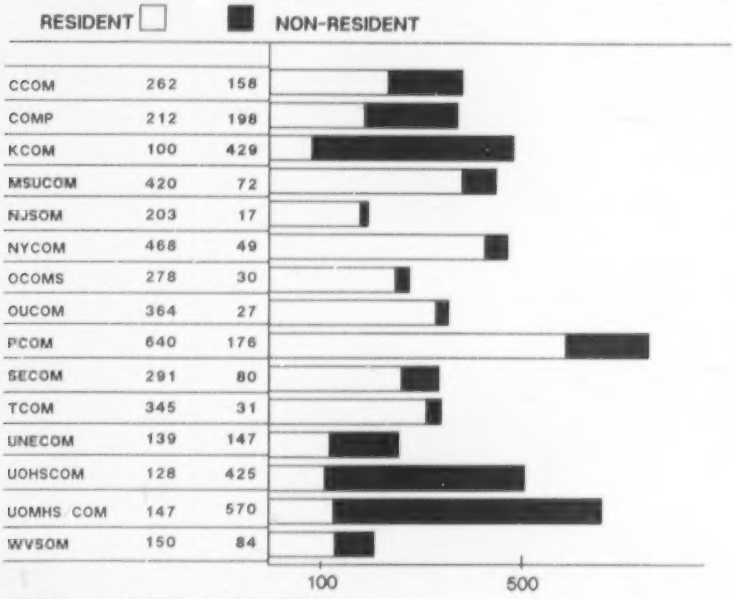
The doctors of osteopathic medicine graduating from college in 1986 were deeper in debt than their predecessors. They owed an average $55,400, 12 percent more than the 1985 graduates. The debt spiral continues to climb.

Freshmen in 1986 anticipate that they will owe $58,300 at the time of their graduation. These debts are heavy burdens for new doctors, in many instances exceeding their expected annual income. Such burdens affect the choices the doctors must make concerning their careers. An earlier AACOM study showed that some DOs who had planned to specialize in large metropolitan areas instead had entered group practices or primary care in smaller or medium sized communities. Though their earnings may be less, they will start to earn sooner. Further details on this subject may be found in the AACOM report, "The Debts of Osteopathic Students in 1986."

Almost all osteopathic medical students are assisted by loans and scholarships. During the academic year 1985-86, the students received 1,368 scholarships; they averaged $9,214 in the private schools and $3,500 in the public schools. About 15 percent of the scholarships, but almost 50 percent of the actual dollars, came from the Armed Forces Health Professions. One-fourth of the scholarships and 14 percent of the money were supplied by state programs. Many others were provided by the osteopathic medical schools or parent universities.

CHART 7

NUMBER OF STATE RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS ENROLLED BY SCHOOL



TOTAL 4,147 + 2,493 = 6,640

62.5% OF ALL STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN THEIR OWN STATE.

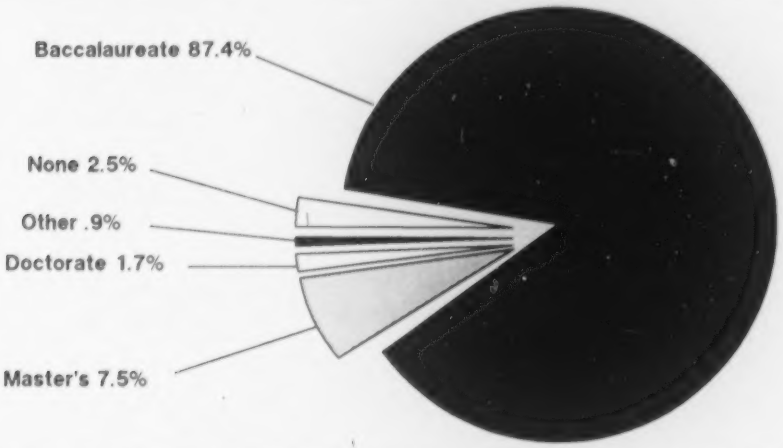
Tuition at some osteopathic medical schools costs more than $15,000 per year, so scholarships and family savings are far from adequate to the students through four years of medical training. Almost all students, therefore, resort to loans. There were 13,714 loans reported by the schools, 5 percent more than the previous year. This represents an average of more than two loans per student. Most loans are supported by federal programs, some by the states, and others by osteopathic associations. More than half of the money was provided by HEAL loans to a quarter of the students. The guaranteed student loan program covered a third of the money and 37 percent of the loans. Other loans include national direct student loans, health professions student loans, state loans, and loans from osteopathic associations.

Student Costs

Transforming a student at the osteopathic medical school into a bright and capable DO requires a considerable amount of money. During 1985-86 average costs at the nine private colleges rose a modest 2.3 percent, bringing them to a price tag of $21,176 per year.

CHART 8

THE BACCALAUREATE WAS THE HIGHEST DEGREE EARNED BY 87% OF THE FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS. ONE OUT OF 11 NEW STUDENTS HAD A MASTER'S DEGREE OR A DOCTORATE.



This includes $12,188 for tuition and fees, $5,857 for room and board, $2,166 for books and equipment, and $964 for transportation as a part of training.

Public colleges charged less for home-state students, but their costs rose 20 percent during the academic year and averaged $11,591. Tuition and fees were $4,309, room and board $4,694, books and equipment $1,505, and required transportation $1,082. Out-of-state students at public colleges paid $6,630 for tuition, and their total costs averaged $14,469, 24 percent more than during the preceding year.

The above costs are approximations calculated from annual statistical reports submitted to AACOM by the colleges. Personal expenses are excluded, and transportation is included only if needed as part of training, such as traveling from school to off-site clinics.

FACULTY

During the 1986-87 academic year, almost 5,000 medical teachers, about 47 percent of whom were volunteers, devoted their time and energies to teaching the students at the 15 osteopathic medical colleges. Almost 30 percent of the full-time faculty taught in the basic sciences, e.g., anatomy, biochemistry, microbiology, pharmacology and physiology. Twenty-eight percent of the full-time basic science faculty held the rank of professor, 40 percent were associate professors and 28 percent assistant professors. Twenty-five percent of the full-time basic science faculty taught anatomy, 16 percent biochemistry, 16 percent microbiology, 14 percent pharmacology and 11 percent physiology.

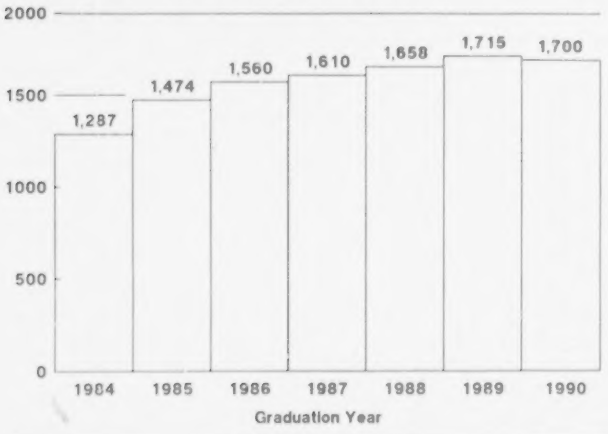
Twenty-five percent of the full-time faculty held the rank of professor, 28 percent held the rank of associate professor, and 34 percent were assistant professors. These faculty members focused their teaching efforts on the following areas: General Practice/Family Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Psychiatry, Radiology, General Surgery and Anesthesiology. These disciplines reflect the importance the osteopathic college administrations place on primary care education.

Only a small percentage of those faculty members in the basic sciences taught part-time, about 13 percent. Over 36 percent of those in the clinical sciences, however, taught part time. Fifty-two percent of the part-time faculty was employed in teaching General Practice/Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, General Surgery and Obstetrics/Gynecology.

Virtually all the volunteer faculty taught in the clinical sciences. Their assignments were dispersed among the several clinical science disciplines.

CHART 9

ALTHOUGH ADMISSIONS ARE NOW SLIGHTLY DECLINING, THE COLLEGES EXPECT A SMALL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF GRADUATES DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS.



Women and ethnic minority faculty have been increasing for the past several years. Almost 9 percent of the teaching staff in 1986-87 were women. Most of the women held positions in the clinical sciences, but they constituted a larger portion of the smaller basic science staff, comprising more than 18 percent of this faculty.

During 1986-87, members of ethnic minority groups equaled almost 6 percent of the faculty. This compares with about 5 percent in 1985-86 and 2 percent in earlier years.

Specialization

During 1986-87, 1,114 board-certified specialists served on the faculty of the osteopathic medical colleges. This number was somewhat less than the 1,426 specialists reported for the 1984-85 academic year because one of the largest medical colleges failed to report data for this year. In addition, there were 243 faculty members who were eligible for certification.

Of those already certified, 21 percent were in the field of General Practice/Family Medicine, 14 percent were in Internal Medicine, and 10 percent were in Surgery. In addition, 7 percent were in Pediatrics and another 7 percent were certified in Psychiatry. Many of those eligible for board certification were concentrated in the same fields; 28 percent in General Practice/Family Medicine, 18 percent in Internal Medicine, 7 percent in Pediatrics and 5 percent in Surgery.

Education of Faculty

Many faculty members at the osteopathic medical colleges hold more than one degree. About 72 percent of the staff (including volunteers) hold a D.O. degree. Eleven percent of the faculty held Ph.D degrees and over 14 percent held M.D. degrees.

Public colleges had a substantially higher percentage of Ph.D.s than the private colleges; the private colleges employed a larger percentage of M.D.s than did the public colleges.

CURRICULUM

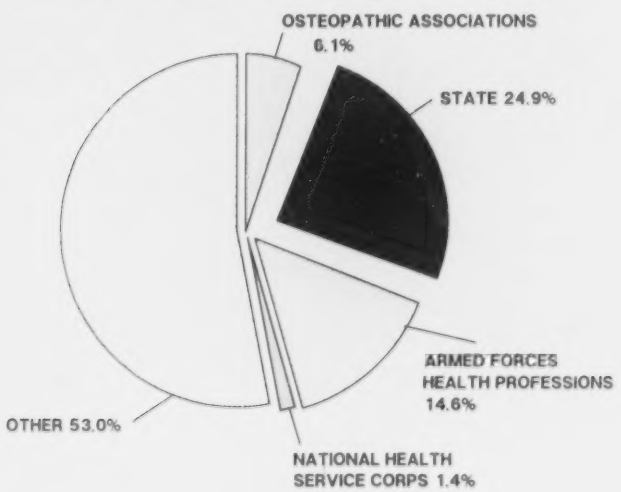
The principal objective of the colleges is to prepare future physicians for the general practice of osteopathic medicine. The colleges focus their training programs on primary care because it is the foundation of osteopathic medicine.

Thus, nine of the colleges state as their objective the training of students as general practitioners. All the colleges, however, provide specialized training. A recent study published by AACOM indicated that 53 percent of the seniors and 47 percent of the freshmen chose to pursue primary care practices. These data reflect a slight change in student options from the two previous years, when more freshmen opted for primary care than did seniors.

The osteopathic medical colleges award the D.O. degree only after a student has successfully completed four years of study. The students devote the first two years of the four-year program largely to the basic sciences, including anatomy, biochemistry, embryology, histology, immunology, microbiology, pathology and physiology. An introduction to clinical studies, including general practice, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, osteopathic manipulation, pediatrics, psychiatry and surgery, also is offered during the first two years by several of the colleges. After completing the basic science curriculum, the students are immersed in clinical practice during the third and fourth years through preceptorships, clerkships and clinical rotations.

CHART 10

ONE OUT OF FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGES WAS PROVIDED BY STATE PROGRAMS.



THERE WERE 1,368 SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE 15 SCHOOLS.

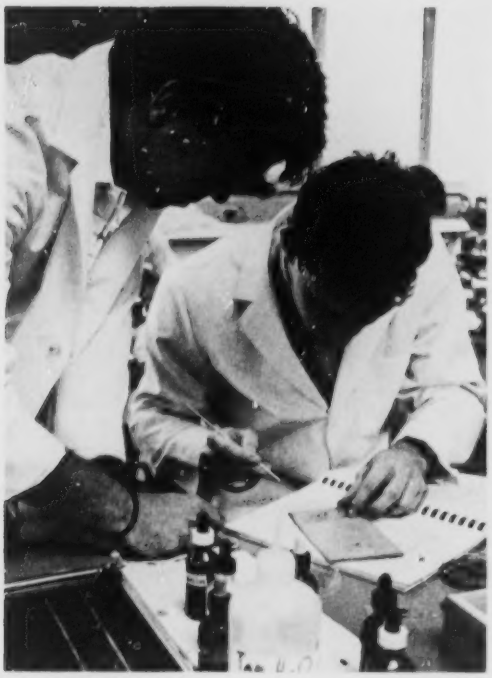
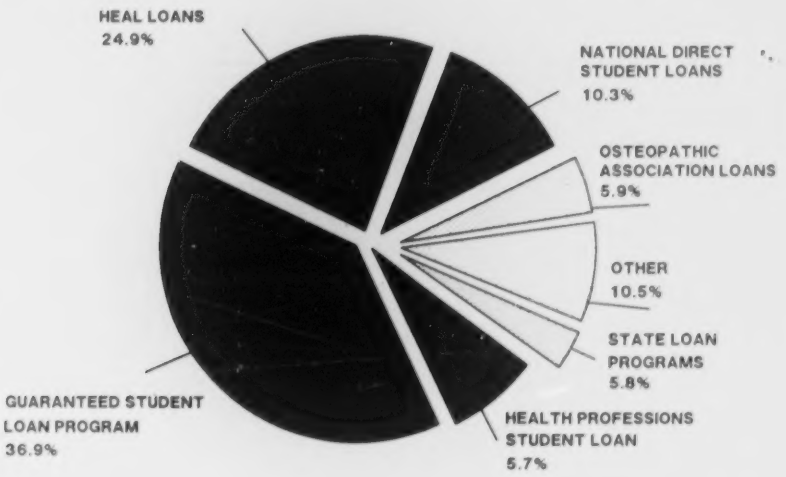


CHART 11

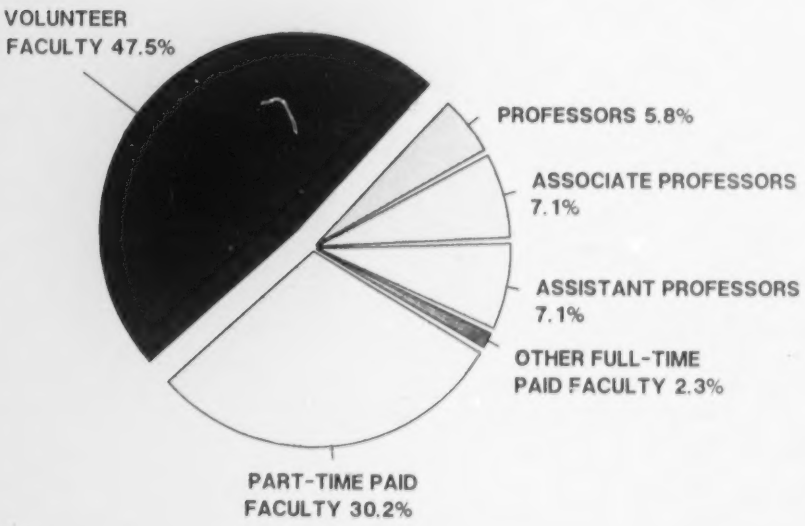
ABOUT 4 OF EVERY 5 LOANS TO STUDENTS WERE MADE UNDER FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

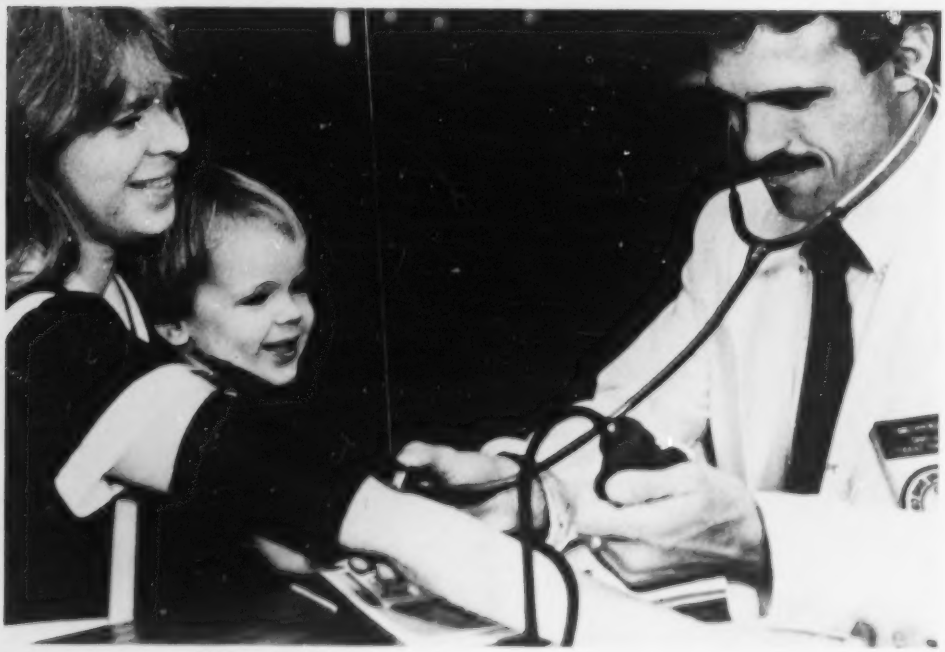


THERE WERE 13,714 LOANS REPORTED BY THE 15 SCHOOLS.

CHART 12

MANY VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTE SERVICES AS MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY.

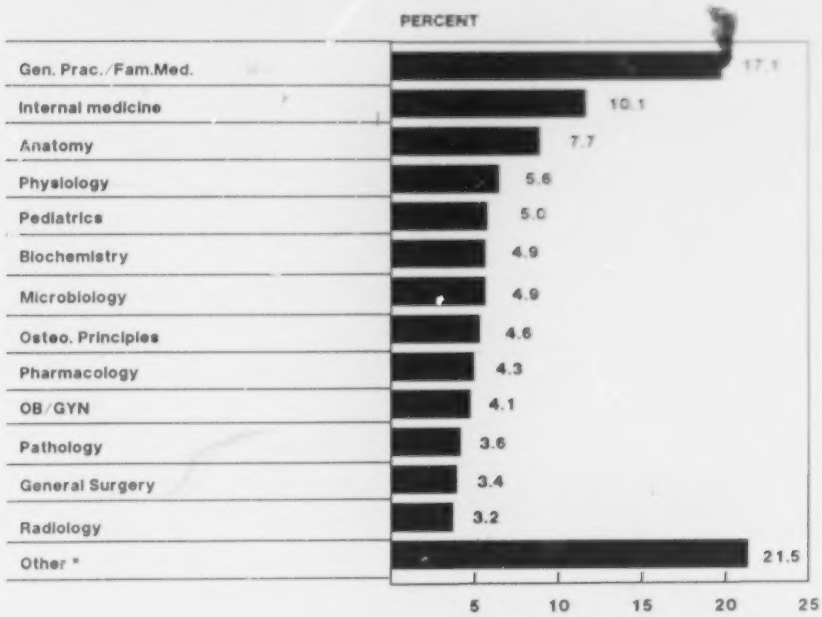




Students are graded in their course work by several methods including composite class rank, numerical rank and letter grade. The National Board Examinations are used by nine of the colleges to evaluate the effectiveness of their osteopathic medical curriculum. Three schools require a passing grade in Part I of the Board Examinations for class advancement and/or graduation, while one requires a passing grade in Part II. Some of the schools also measure student achievement and the college curriculum through feedback from preceptors, hospital personnel and reports of the students as well as regular college examinations. Of particular interest is the special attention the osteopathic colleges are devoting to current aspects of health care, including geriatrics, nutrition, cost containment, health promotion, drug therapy, bioethics, biomechanics and the use of computers in medicine.

CHART 13

FULL-TIME FACULTY OF THE COLLEGES PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING DISCIPLINES:



* Other disciplines to which one percent or more of the full-time faculty were assigned include: ophthalmology, anesthesiology, rehabilitation, and psychiatry

The colleges have differing policies toward electives. Two colleges permit some elective time in the first year, five in the second year, eight in the third year, and all except one in the last year. Advanced or specialized courses chosen by the students to supplement their basic training constitute the permitted electives.

Finally, the osteopathic colleges divide each of the first two years into semesters or trimesters, with the private colleges using the trimester and the public colleges tending toward semesters. Vacation time decreases as the students advance in their curriculum. The average vacation time during their freshmen year is 12 weeks. After the second year, there is an average of 8 weeks vacation; after the third year this time decreases to 2 1/2 weeks, but seven of the colleges do not permit any vacation during the students' third year.

CHART 14

ALMOST HALF THE BOARD-CERTIFIED SPECIALISTS AMONG THE COLLEGE FACULTY WERE IN THE FIELDS OF GENERAL PRACTICE/FAMILY MEDICINE, INTERNAL MEDICINE, OR SURGERY.

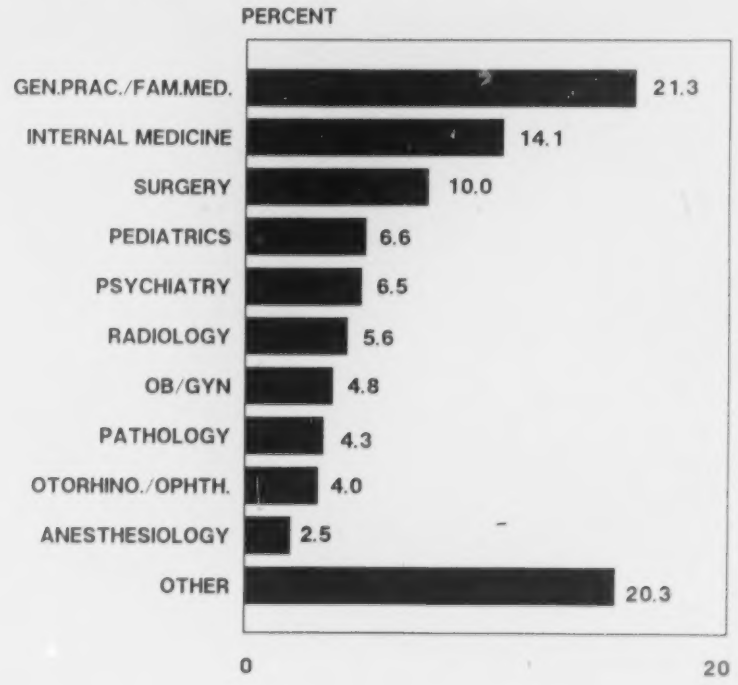
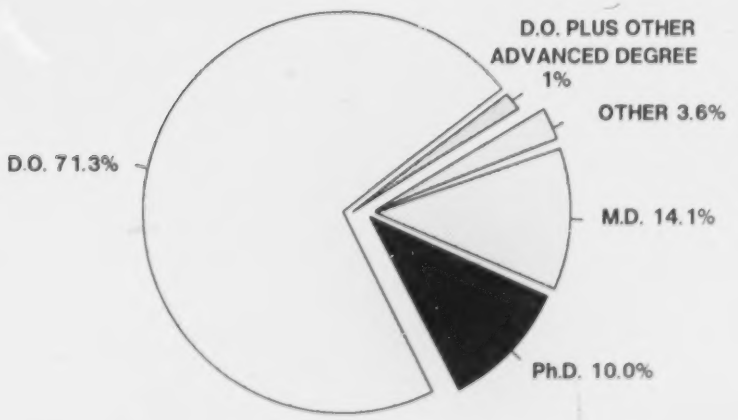


CHART 15

SEVENTY-TWO PERCENT OF THE FULL-TIME FACULTY OF THE COLLEGES HAVE ATTAINED D.O. DEGREES. AN ADDITIONAL 24% HOLD M.D. OR Ph.D. DEGREES.



GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

Funds received by 14 reporting osteopathic medical schools increased by 30 percent in FY 1985-86 to $28 million. This far exceeds grants and contracts reported in prior years. Most of the funds were used for research, some were devoted to improved teaching techniques, others were for service or multipurposes.

Federal contributions reached a record $15 million. Money from the states rose to $8.3 million, a 22 percent increase. Contributions from foundations approached $5 million, a 30 percent hike over the previous year.

The six public colleges received a total $15.4 million, about a third more than during FY 1984-85. The eight private schools reported receiving $12.5 million in grants and contracts, $1 million more than the previous year. None of the schools reported grants with capitation amounts.

Federal contributions ranged from $50,000 in one school to almost $4 million in another. State contributions ranged from zero in three schools to over $4 million in another. All the colleges except one reported money received from foundations. In two schools, the funds received exceeded $1 million. Foundation money amounted to 17 percent of the funds received for grants and contracts.

CHART 16

OVER HALF OF THE MONEY RECEIVED BY THE COLLEGES FOR GRANTS AND CONTRACTS CAME FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

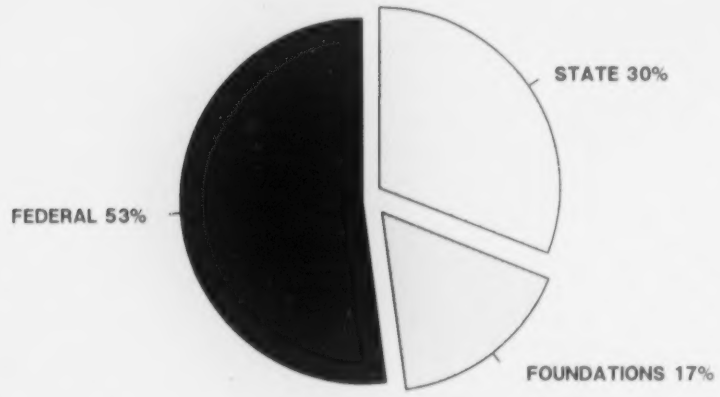
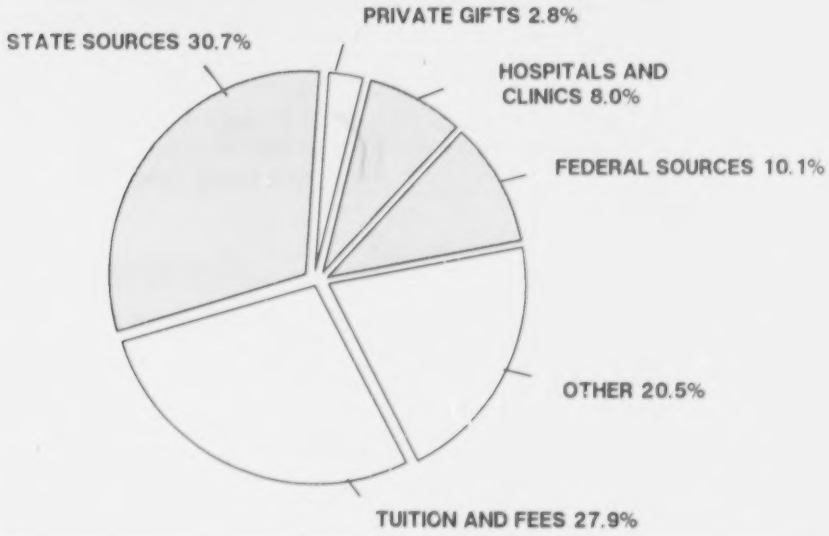


CHART 17

REVENUES RECEIVED BY THE COLLEGES FROM HOSPITALS AND CLINICS BECOME PART OF THEIR REGULAR OPERATING FUNDS. MONEY FROM FEDERAL SOURCES IS RESTRICTED IN ITS USE, BUT MONEY FROM STATE SOURCES GENERALLY IS NOT.

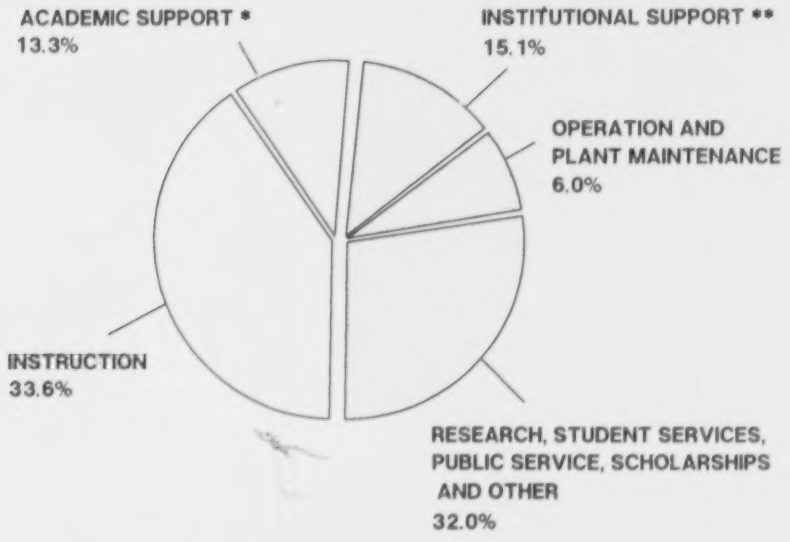


REVENUES

The principal source of revenue for osteopathic colleges in 1985-86 continued to be the state governments. These resources were tendered through special appropriations, grants and contracts. Revenues from the states have risen from 25 percent of total college revenues in 1981-82 to 31 percent in 1985-86. Tuition also has been playing a more significant role, rising from 19 percent in 1981-82 to 28 percent in 1985-86. Similarly, federal funding has increased from a range of 4 to 6 percent over the past several years to 10 percent in 1985-86. Reported revenues from hospitals and clinics, however, have decreased as a share of total revenue, falling from 38 percent to 8 percent this past year; this is about the same level as in the previous year.

CHART 18

CLOSE TO HALF THE MONEY SPENT BY THE OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGES WAS USED FOR INSTRUCTION AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT.

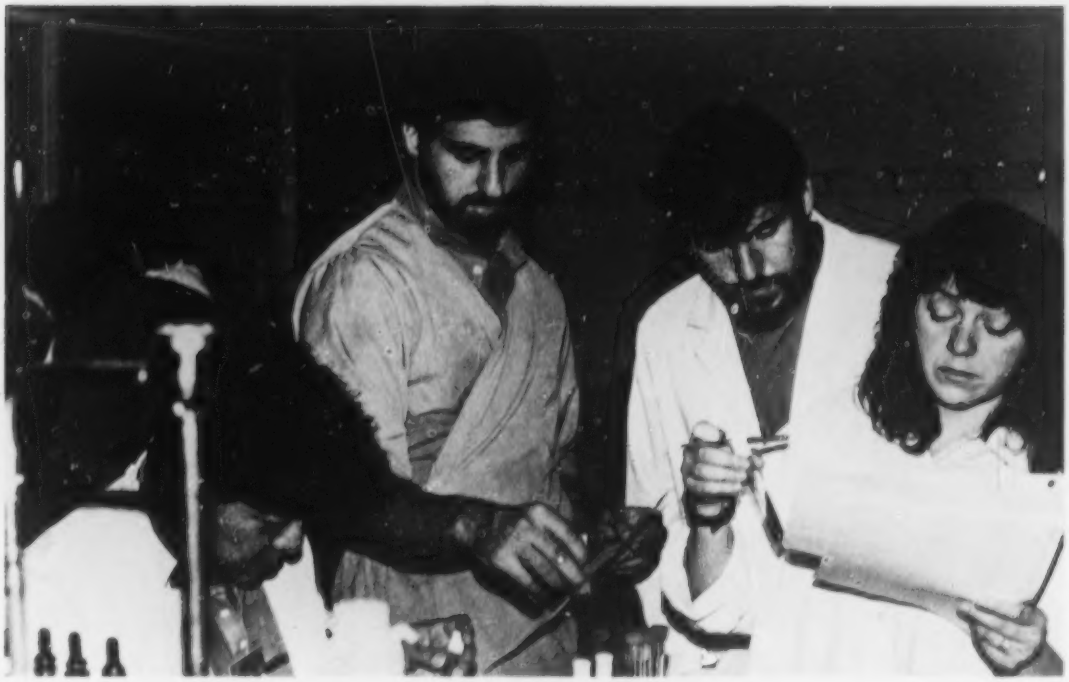


* ACADEMIC SUPPORT includes educational materials, libraries, machine shop, computer services, animal resource center, etc.

**INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT includes cost of administration, management and planning, fiscal operations, administrative data processing, space management, personnel records, and community and alumni relations.

The 14 osteopathic colleges reporting indicated that they received a total of $211 million in revenues in 1985-86. Last year, 13 colleges had reported receiving $161 million. In the private colleges, 6 percent of the revenues were earmarked for specific projects; among the public colleges 14 percent of the revenues were similarly restricted.

An increasing amount of money was provided by the federal government, as noted above, with 10 percent of the college revenues deriving from federal grants, contracts and appropriations; a minuscule 0.2 percent was provided by local governments. In addition to the major contributions cited above, other sources of college revenue included private gifts, medical practice loans, parent-school appropriations, sales and service of educational activities, endowment income and other unspecified sources. These sources contributed about 24 percent of all reported college revenues.



EXPENDITURES

During the academic year 1985-86, 14 of the osteopathic medical colleges reported total expenditures of $208 million. The principal item for these schools was instruction of students, costing $70 million or 34 percent of the total expenditures. This compares with 40 percent in 1984-85 and 31 percent four years ago. Academic support amounted to almost $28 million, more than 13 percent of total expenditures. Institutional support also has increased to over $31 million, 15 percent of the total money spent. In 1984-85 money spent for institutional support was 13 percent, and in 1983-84 it was 12 percent.

The estimated annual cost to the school for each student for 1985-86 was approximately $30,500, up from $26,000 in 1984-85 and $25,000 in 1983-84. These estimates omit the cost of such items as research and public service and are computed by dividing the sum of all other college expenditures by total college enrollment. Among the colleges, the computed cost ranges from just over $15,000 to over $77,000. On the average, costs per student were approximately 1.7 times as high in public colleges as in private colleges. Increased expenditures required by the colleges to maintain the high standards of osteopathic medical education account for the continued rise in average costs.

Other Publications Available From AACOM

The Education of the Osteopathic Physician - a comprehensive book that provides information essential to the health professions advisor and the prospective student of osteopathic medicine. Included is information on the education process - medical school through internship and residency, licensure, practice options, and history and philosophy of osteopathic medicine. Admissions criteria and brief overviews of the 15 osteopathic medical schools also are provided.

$7.00 per copy

Osteopathic Medical Education - single copies of this brochure are available from AACOM free of charge. Multiple copies are available at $7.50 per 50 copies and 12 per 100.

College Information Booklet - contains information on the 15 osteopathic colleges, including a brief description of each college, admissions criteria, minimum entrance requirements, supplementary application materials required, an indication of class size or enrollment, application deadlines, and tuition.

$1 per copy
Bulk rates @ $12.50 per 25 copies, $37 per 100

A Guide to Sources of Financial Aid for Osteopathic Medical Students (1985) - a comprehensive listing of financial aid resources available to osteopathic medical students, including descriptions of each program and eligibility criteria.

$6.50 per copy

Application Packet - contains application for the centralized application service, procedures for applying, and college information.

No charge

Other Publications Available From AACOM (Continued)

AACOM Organizational Guide - contains information on the organizational structure of the Association, a list of members of its councils, sections, and committees, and a listing of administrative staff and faculty in the 15 member colleges of osteopathic medicine.

$5 per copy

Study on Competency Based Objectives for Undergraduate Osteopathic Medical Education - contains information on the minimum clinical competencies expected of a newly graduated osteopathic physician, the component elements contributing to those competencies, and a timetable for the introduction and/or completion of these competencies. Competency objectives for the five core areas of osteopathic medical education - medicine, surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, and general and family practice - are identified.

$18 per copy

The Debts of Osteopathic Students - a survey that examines indebtedness of osteopathic medical students at the 15 osteopathic colleges. The situations, characteristics, and plans of students are compared at their entrance to osteopathic medical school and just prior to their graduation.

$6.50 per copy